

PATENTS
Attorney Docket No. NMC-001.01

REMARKS

The Examiner advised Applicant that the amendments filed in their October 21, 2004, Reply to Notice of Non-Compliance did not comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c) in that, according to the Examiner, the status of "Withdrawn - currently amended", used with respect to claims 29-31, 37, 47 and 49, is not proper.

Examiner's attention is directed to the last sentence of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(2), which states:

If a withdrawn claim is currently amended, its status in the claim listing may be identified as "withdrawn - currently amended".

Since Applicant has made amendments to some of the withdrawn claims, the status "withdrawn -currently amended" for those claims is proper.

Applicant also notes that, contrary to what the Examiner indicated in the December 30, 2004, Notice of Non-Compliance, claim 43 has the status of "Currently amended" and not "Withdrawn - currently amended".

Respectfully submitted,



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Customer No: 25181
Patent Group
Foley Hoag, LLP
155 Seaport Blvd.
Boston, MA 02210-2600

Joseph H. Born, Reg. No. 28,283
Attorney for Applicant
Tel. No. (617) 832-1134
Fax. No. (617) 832-7000

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